

[0184] FIG. 12A illustrates a tapped inductor converter as an interleaving converter. In the figure, the converter unit 530 includes first to third tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c.

[0185] The bypass diode unit 510 includes first to third bypass diodes Da, Db, Dc, which are disposed among node a, node b, node c, and node d, which correspond to the first to fourth conductive lines 135a, 135b, 135c, 135d.

[0186] The converter unit 530 may perform power conversion using the DC voltage  $V_{pv}$  output from the bypass diode unit 510.

[0187] In particular, the first to third tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c output the converted DC voltages to the DC-link capacitor C1 according to the interleaving operation.

[0188] The first tapped inductor converter 611a includes a tapped inductor T1, a switching device S1 connected between the tapped inductor T1 and the ground, and a diode D1 connected to the output terminal of the tapped inductor to allow current flow in one direction. The DC-link capacitor C1 is connected between the output terminal of the diode D1, namely the cathode of the diode D1 and the ground.

[0189] Specifically, the switching device S1 may be connected between the tap of the tapped inductor T and the ground.

[0190] The output terminal (secondary side) of the tapped inductor T is connected to the anode of the diode D1, and the DC-link capacitor C1 is connected between the cathode of the diode D1 and the ground.

[0191] The primary side and secondary side of the tapped inductor T have opposite polarities. The tapped inductor T may be referred to as a switching transformer.

[0192] The primary side and secondary side of the tapped inductor T are connected, as shown in the figure. Thereby, the tapped inductor converter may be a non-insulation type converter.

[0193] If the three tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c are connected in parallel and driven in an interleaving manner as shown in figure, the input current component is branched in parallel, and thus ripple of the current components output from the tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c is reduced.

[0194] Each of tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c may adaptively operate according to the required power of the output AC voltage.

[0195] For example, if the required power is between about 90 W and about 130 W, only the first converter 611a operate. If the required power is between about 190 W and about 230 W, only the first and second converters 611a, 611b may operate. If the required power is between 290 W and about 330 W, all the first to third interleaving converters 611a, 611b, 611c may operate. That is, each of the tapped inductor converters 611a, 611b, 611c may selectively operate. Such selective operation may be controlled by the controller 550.

[0196] The inverter 540 converts the DC voltage having a level converted by the converter unit 530 into an AC voltage. In the figure, a full-bridge inverter is illustrated. That is, an upper-arm switching device Sa, Sb is connected to a lower-arm switching device S'a, S'b in series to form one pair, and thus two pairs of upper-arm and lower-arm switching

devices are connected in parallel (Sa&S'a, Sb&S'b). Each of the switching devices Sa, S'a, Sb, S'b are connected with a diode in reverse parallel.

[0197] The switching devices in the inverter 540 are turned on/off based on an inverter switching control signal from the controller 550. Thereby, an AC voltage having a predetermined frequency is output. Preferably, the predetermined frequency is the same as the AC frequency of the grid (about 60 Hz or 50 Hz).

[0198] The filter unit 560 performs low-pass filtering to smooth the AC voltage output from the inverter 540. To this end, indicators Lf1, Lf2 are illustrated in the figure, but other various examples are also possible.

[0199] A converter input current sensing unit A senses an input current ic1 input to the converter unit 530, and a converter input voltage sensing unit B senses an input voltage vc1 input to the converter unit 530. The sensed input current ic1 and the input voltage vc1 may be input to the controller 550.

[0200] A converter output current sensing unit C senses the output current ic2 of the converter unit 530, namely, the DC-link current, and a converter output voltage sensing unit D senses the output voltage vc2 output from the converter unit 530, namely the DC-link voltage. The sensed output current ic2 and output voltage vc2 may be input to the controller 550.

[0201] An inverter output current sensing unit E senses a current ic3 output from the inverter 540, and an inverter output voltage sensing unit F senses a voltage vc3 output from the inverter 540. The sensed current ic3 and voltage vc3 are input to the controller 550.

[0202] The controller 550 may output a control signal for controlling the switching device S1 of the converter unit 530 of FIG. 12. In particular, the controller 550 may output a turn-on timing signal of the switching device S1 in the converter unit 530 based on at least one of the sensed input current ic1, input voltage vc1, output current ic2, output voltage vc2, output current ic3, and output voltage vc3.

[0203] The controller 550 may output an inverter control signal for controlling each of the switching devices Sa, S'a, Sb, S'b of the inverter 540. In particular, the controller 550 may output a turn-on timing signal of the respective switching devices Sa, S'a, Sb, S'b of the inverter 540 based on at least one of the sensed input current ic1, input voltage vc1, output current ic2, output voltage vc2, output current ic3, and output voltage vc3.

[0204] The controller 550 may calculate the point of maximum power for the solar cell module 100, and correspondingly control the converter unit 530 to output a DC power voltage corresponding to the maximum power.

[0205] The ground 541 of the inverter 540 is electrically connected to the ground line 320a of the cable 320. A first line of the output lines of the filter unit 560 is electrically connected to the first power line 320b of the cable 320. The second line of the output lines of the filter unit 560 is electrically connected to the second power line 320c of the cable 320.

[0206] FIG. 12B is an internal circuit diagram illustrating another example of the junction box of FIG. 11.

[0207] Similar to the power conversion module 700 of FIG. 12A, the power conversion module 700 of FIG. 12B may include a bypass diode unit 510, a converter unit 530, a DC-link capacitor C1, an inverter 540, a controller 550, and a filter unit 560.